

As in all Utah communities, education was and is very important to the people of Midway.

The first school was on First South and Main Street and doubled as a recreation hall. It was called Van Wagoner's Hall. Later, another school was built on the corner where the town hall is now located. This was a two story building with two rooms upstairs, two rooms downstairs, and a stairway on the outside of the building. There were eight grades; four upstairs and four downstairs. A third school house was built, and still stands, on the town square, but is no longer in use. It was constructed mainly of native pot rock, with a bell tower similar to the ones in Switzerland.

The bell originally was rung everyday at the beginning of class. Later it was rung by John Boss Jr., only on holidays and all town celebrations and funerals. In the last few years that this school was used, the bell was rung at the beginning and at the end of the school year. The outstanding citizen (boys only), were given the honor of ringing the bell at the end of the year.

The bell was removed from the old school and is now found in the marquee at the new Midway Elementary School, which is now six years old.

*New West School in*

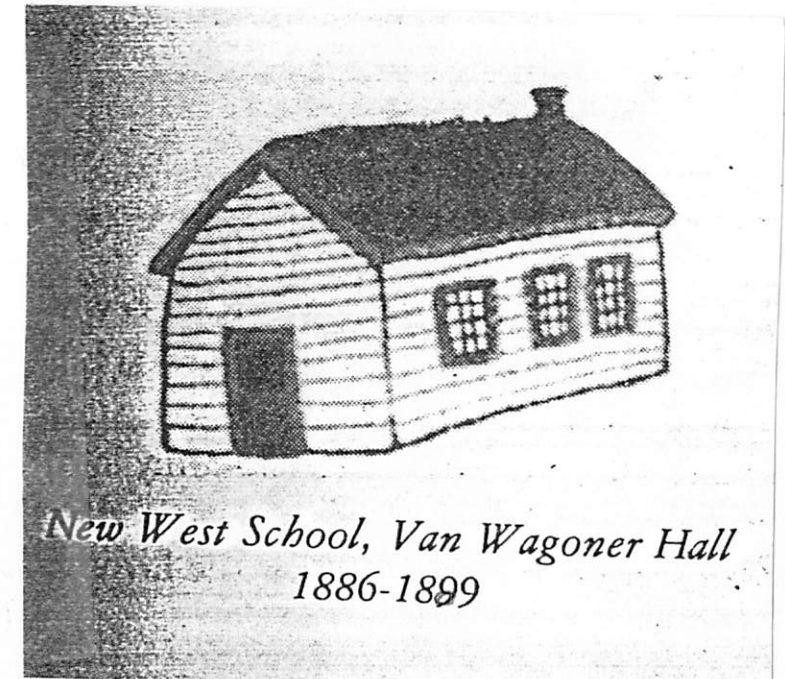
*Midway = Van Wagoner's Hall*

*Location: 100 So. Main Street*



Midway's New West School conducted in Van Wagoner Hall in 1886

(60)





New West  
School operating  
from 1883 to 1889

HBUM  
PP 600-601

Located just so of the  
John Van Wagoner Sr  
home  
Built by David  
Van Wag  
18-

8th